



COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY STATEMENT ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE

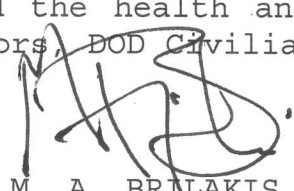


Alcohol abuse, substance abuse, and the wrongful use of legal but controlled substances are detrimental to the readiness of our Division and cannot be tolerated. Substance abuse destroys the effectiveness, careers, and families of our Marines and Sailors. Alcohol and substance abuse have proven a major factor in incidents of misconduct that have embarrassed not only our Corps, but also the entire United States. I absolutely believe that alcohol and substance abuse is unnecessary and preventable.

The consumption of alcohol is not essential to the development of unit pride. Camaraderie can and should be developed through other means and activities. Any activity that could be construed as encouraging our Marines and Sailors to drink shall be avoided. In addition, illegal substance abuse within the Division will not be tolerated. I believe this mindset to be essential to the success of our Division and the health of our Marines and Sailors.

I charge the leaders of 3d Marine Division to engage in aggressive Command education and action to prevent and eliminate all forms of substance abuse. The primary focus of effort will be on prevention, education, detection, and appropriate discipline for offenders. This method will enable our Marines, Sailors, and families to be armed with the knowledge and leadership skills necessary to attack and prevent substance abuse issues before they develop into serious problems.

We must ensure that every member of 3d Marine Division is committed to eradicating substance abuse from our organization. If you suspect someone, or yourself, of having a problem, take action. Confront the individual or seek assistance from your Substance Abuse Control Officer or Chaplain. Through preemptive action, engaged leadership, training, counseling, and constant vigilance we can keep this illegal behavior from destroying our combat effectiveness and the health and general welfare of our individual Marines, Sailors, DOD Civilians and their families.


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